

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 were pending in the Office Action. By this response, Applicants amend claim 1, cancel claim 3 and add new claims 11-17.

In the Office Action, the Examiner:
objected to claim 3 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim;
rejected claims 5-10 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; and
rejected claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tajima et al. (US 5,829,481).

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claim 3.

Claims 5-10 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to provide antecedent basis for the term "the load-sensing line." Applicants have amended claim 1, from which claim 5-10 depend, to recite "a load-sensing line," thereby obviating this rejection.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tajima. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the recitation of allowable claim 3, thereby obviating this rejection.

New claims 11-17 have been added. New claim 11 incorporates the recitations of original claims 1, 4, 5 and 6. Original claims 5-10 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, but were not rejected under 35 USC §§ 102 or 103 by the Examiner. Applicants have addressed the § 112 rejection by reciting "a load-sensing line" in claim 11. Thus, Applicants submit that new claim 11 and claims 12-17, which depend from claim 11, are allowable.

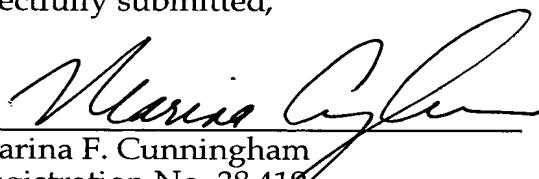
Application No. 10/734,838
Response dated June 16, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 16, 2005

As Applicants believe that they have addressed each and every rejection raised by the Examiner, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the rejections and pass claims 1, 2 and 4-17 to issue.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Applicants believe no fee is due for filing this response, however, if it is determined that a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 13-0235.

Respectfully submitted,

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